

## **Town of Milford POLICE DEPARTMENT 2013 Town Report**

I am pleased to present the 2013 Milford Police Department Annual Report.

The Milford Police Department is comprised of 26 sworn officer positions and 9 civilian full and part time employee positions. All of our employees take great pride in providing professional, effective and efficient police services to the citizens who reside and visit the Town of Milford and the State of New Hampshire.

In 2013, the Milford Police Department experienced some personnel changes within the organization. During the year, we had five officers who resigned or retired from the Police Department. Sergeant Kevin Furlong, who has been with our department for 10 years, resigned to take the Chief of Police position for the Mont Vernon Police Department. Officer Hunter Philbrick retired after 12 years of service with our department. Officer Michael Tufo left our department and accepted a position with the Londonderry Police Department. Officer Mark Pepler and Officer Jessalyn Camelio left the department to pursue other interests. I would like to thank all these officers for their commitment and dedication to our community and the law enforcement profession.



It is also my honor to announce the addition of four new sworn officers that were hired during 2013.

Officer Anthony Millar, Officer Jeffrey Sprankle and Officer Ryan Rothhuas, were all sworn in on June 4, 2013. Each of them then successfully completed and graduated from the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Academy and the Milford Police Department Field Training program. Officer Millar,

Officer Sprankle, and Officer Rothhaus have continued to progress in their law enforcement careers, and are committed to providing the highest degree of police service to our community. Officer Michael Barrett was sworn in on December 30<sup>th</sup> and is scheduled to attend the Police Academy on January 6, 2014.

In 2013, the following officers were recognized for their accomplishments:

- Captain Stephen Toom graduated from the FBI National Academy, session #253, which was held in Quantico, Virginia.
- Captain Christopher Nervik attended and successfully completed the Rural Executive Management Institute program, session 35, which was held in Vermont.
- Officer Joseph McKenna was awarded the Life Saving Award.
- Officer Richard Addonizio was awarded the Life Saving Award.

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- Officer Andrew Fowle successfully completed his two years in the Detective Division and received his Detective Badge.

The men and women of the Milford Police Department are committed to providing exceptional police service. Our employees are positive and professional, and are continuing their efforts in building a partnership with the community to ensure that our town remains a safe place for our citizens. Our civilian employees continue to provide excellent customer service and support to our divisions to ensure that they function at the highest level.

In 2013, we had a decrease of 18% in crimes against persons and a decrease of 25% in crimes against property. We believe that through our community initiatives, proactive patrols, and increased technology, along with dedicated police work we were able to accomplish the reduction in these types of crimes.

Our department also focused on targeting drug related activity within our community. Officers took a proactive approach towards identifying people and areas that have possible drug activity. Officers then increased their presence in these areas to deter this type of activity. We believe that our efforts had a positive impact on reducing crime in the Town of Milford.

**Milford Police Department  
Statistics  
2012-2013**

Activity	2012	2013	Change
Total Calls	38,410	38,225	-.5%
Incidents Logged	2,737	2,530	-8%
Total MV Stops	5,848	4,890	-16%
Warnings	5,580	4,513	-19%
Summonses	268	377	+41%
Criminal Arrest	470	477	+1%

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**Offenses Reported**

<b>Group A Crimes Against Persons</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>Change</b>
Homicide	0	0	n/a
Kidnapping	3	0	n/a
Sex Assaults	36	38	+6%
Aggravated Assault	21	12	-43%
Simple Assault	158	140	-11%
Intimidation	119	85	-29%
<b>Total Crimes Against Persons</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>-18%</b>

<b>Group A Crimes Against Property</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>Change</b>
Robbery	8	2	-75%
Arson	2	6	+200%
Burglary	44	28	-36%
Theft	279	249	-11%
Vehicle Theft	15	9	-40%
Counterfeit/Forgery	12	17	+42%
Fraud	52	24	-54%
Stolen Property	15	17	+13%
Destruction of Property	239	147	-38%
<b>Total Crimes Against Property</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>-25%</b>

<b>Group A Crimes Against Society</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>Change</b>
Drug/Narcotic Violations	69	75	+9%
Drug Equipment Violations	2	0	n/a
Pornography	3	6	+100%
Weapon Violations	3	8	+167%
<b>Total Crimes Against Society</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>+16%</b>

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<b>Group B Crimes</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>Change</b>
All Other Offenses	670	779	+16%
Bad Checks	11	13	+18%
Disorderly Conduct	49	43	-2%
Family Offenses	9	11	+22%
Liquor Law Violations	40	40	0%
Intoxication	41	28	-32%
Runaways	12	22	+83%
Trespassing	92	80	-13%
DWI Arrests	45	45	0%
<b>Total Group B Crimes</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>+9%</b>

### **Operations**

In 2013 one of the goals of the Patrol Division was to increase the community's confidence in its police department, and to share concerns, perspectives, ideas and solutions to crime and disorder. During 2013, Sergeant Matthew Fiffield with the assistance of patrol sergeants, officers and detectives were able to hold the first ever Milford Police Department Citizens Academy. During the eight week academy, the attendees learned many aspects about the department and law enforcement. Attendees were able to learn about what the officers do on a daily basis and were able to build a positive relationship with the instructors and officers who assisted in the academy. Overall the academy was a great success and we received positive feedback from all the people that attended. The department is planning on having another academy in 2014.

In 2013, we continued our Neighborhood Watch Program, which has proven to be a successful and positive program. Residents in these neighborhoods are more aware of what to look for and when to contact police to help deter criminal activity in their neighborhoods. As a result of these initiatives, the department continues to foster a partnership with the community and build confidence in deterring criminal activity and improving the quality of life for our citizens.

The Operations Bureau also worked towards implementing effective crime control measures aimed at reducing criminal activity. During 2013 the patrol division implemented a new procedure to help supervisors streamline report reviews and approvals in case management. As a result of the new procedure, our reports are approved and entered into the records management system in a timely manner. The

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department has also implemented a mapping program, which assists supervisors and officers in recognizing crime trends and problem areas.

Also assigned to the Operations Bureau are the Motor Unit, K-9 Unit, and the Mountain Bike Unit. The usage of these units has allowed the officers and citizens to have positive interactions through several annual events that are held by the Town of Milford. Besides these events, our units are also involved in demonstrations and operations that are conducted by our department as well as neighboring towns and departments.

**2013 Motor Unit**

The Milford Police Department currently has two Harley Davidson FLHTP Police Motorcycles. In 2013 our motor officers included Sergeant Frye, Sergeant Plumer, Officer Joki and Officer McKenna. These officers have been trained to operate a police motorcycle which includes, but is not limited to, motorcycle control, braking, evasive maneuvers and police tactical operations. The course is specifically designed for law enforcement purposes and police officers.

The motorcycles are used for patrol with a high priority to motor vehicle enforcement and special events from April to November which depends on the weather. The motorcycles continue to be used to enforce motor vehicle and speeding violations in high traffic areas such as work and school zones. In addition they were effective in helping police patrol crowded events such as the Milford Pumpkin Festival, highly publicized political events, and the annual parades.

In 2013 we were not able to have the motorcycles out as often as last year due to manpower issues but with the addition of our new officers we will be able to increase our Motor Unit presence in 2014.

<b>Motor Unit Activity</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>Change</b>
MV Stops	1,141	298	-74%
Shifts Patrolled	98	30	-69%
Average stops per shift	12	10	-17%
Total Miles Patrolled	5,749	3,500	-39%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>3,838</b>	<b>-45%</b>

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**2013 Police K-9 Unit**



Officer Jason Palmer and K-9 Oryx are assigned to the Milford Police Department's K-9 unit, which is assigned to the Patrol Division. In 2013 Officer Palmer and K-9 Oryx completed extensive training logging close to 350 total training hours. Together Officer Palmer and K-9 Oryx worked diligently toward cases involving complex narcotics investigations and as a result made several notable narcotics seizures. Officer Palmer and K-9 Oryx train with the United States Canine Association.

Our K-9 Unit is very involved in community related events. Officer Palmer and K-9 Oryx have been involved in several public demonstrations and Community Policing initiatives that have been held throughout our community. They also assist other departments and communities in mutual aid calls and public relations events.

K-9 unit Activity	2012	2013	Change
Building Searches	40	50	+25%
Security/ Search Warrant	19	65	+242%
Field Searches	15	2	-87%
Public Demonstration	4	13	+225%
Mutual Aid/ Assist other	1	12	+1,100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>+80%</b>

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**2013 Mountain Bike Unit**

The Milford Police Department currently has two Fuji Police Mountain Bikes. In 2013 our certified mountain bike officers included Sergeant Pelletier, Officer Johnson, Officer Stone, Officer Wales and Juvenile Officer Campbell. These officers receive intense training which includes long rides, bicycle cadence, and safe handling of the bicycle as it relates to law enforcement.

In 2013 the mountain bike unit continued to focus on community policing and safety. The unit was present at the McDonald's Children's Safety Fair where children interacted and spoke to the officers about bicycle safety. The unit was also present at the Keyes Field swim meet, the Labor Day parade and provided security at the annual Pumpkin Festival.

The bicycle unit also plays an important role with safety and community relations in the downtown area as well the neighborhoods in town. The bicycle unit allows the officers to be more accessible to the public and business owners. The officers can listen to and assist the public with any needs or concerns. In 2013 the bicycle unit continued to focus on traffic, pedestrian, and noise issues in the downtown area, and enforced these laws as needed.

<b>Mountain Bike Unit Activity</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>Change</b>
Arrests	9	4	-56%
Traffic Stops	122	16	-87%
Pedestrian Contacts	2,720	1,630	-40%
Parking Citations	2	8	+300%
Hours rode	160	118	-26%
Business Checks	80	93	+26%
Area Checks	50	133	+166%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,143</b>	<b>2,002</b>	<b>-36%</b>

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**Support Bureau**

The Support Division experienced a busy year in 2013. The Support Bureau is comprised of the Detective Division, Juvenile Division and Prosecution. The Bureau is also responsible for ensuring that the department is properly trained.

**Detective Division:**

In 2013, the Detectives investigated several high profile cases and continued to proactively investigate and identify individuals and areas involved in drug related activity. Some of the high profile cases, such as the Tractor Supply Robbery and Attempted Arson on Union Square were time intensive and complex. The Detectives conducted thorough investigations in both cases, which resulted in arrests of the individuals who committed the crimes. Detectives were also able to close a string of burglaries that occurred in May of 2013. Through evidence that was collected at the scene of the burglaries, detectives were able to link them to a suspect that was involved in burglaries in Concord, NH.

Detectives continued their focus on identifying individuals and areas that are involved with drug related activity. Detectives worked closely with the Patrol Division and other agencies to assist in drug investigations and increase a police presence in these areas to deter criminal activity. The Detective Division will continue to place a high priority on identifying drug related activity in 2014.

**Juvenile Division:**

In 2013, Officer Dan Campbell took on the responsibilities of the department's Juvenile Officer Position. Officer Campbell has done an excellent job in the short time that he has been in this position. Officer Campbell is working closely with the schools, court, and Juvenile Probation Officer. The Milford Area Diversion Program has continued to be a focus for our Juvenile Officer. This program is intended for first time, non-violent offenders, and has proven successful in preventing recidivism.

Officer Campbell is tasked with investigating all serious crimes that involve juveniles as victims or offenders. He also works closely with the NH Juvenile Compliance Monitor to ensure our department is up to date and in compliance with all matters involving our youth.

Our department also has two Crossing Guards that are assigned to the schools. The school children are able to safely come and go from the schools each morning and afternoon due to the dedication of our Crossing Guards. These ladies greet each child and parent they come in contact with, cheerfully, in all weather conditions. The children



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can often be seen sharing a smile and telling the Crossing Guard about their day in school.

**Prosecution:**

Our Prosecutor, Attorney Michael McCall, continues to advocate for victims in the courts. Attorney McCall has worked closely with our officers in order to present solid cases in the District Courts as well as presenting felony cases before the Superior Court Grand Jury. Attorney McCall is very well respected within the courts and law enforcement community. He was recently asked to assist in training Police Prosecutors at Police Standards & Training Council in Concord, NH.

Along with his legal responsibilities, Attorney McCall also advises the Milford Police Department Command Staff, Sergeants and Officers on various legal matters, often providing opinions based on hours of legal research. Attorney McCall is a very valuable asset to our department and he is committed to providing the highest degree of service to the department and community.

**Recruitment / Training:**

The Support Division is responsible for the recruitment of new officers, and for the training of all members in our department. This year our department filled four sworn officer vacancies. The first three officers that were hired have successfully graduated from the Police Academy and completed the Milford Police Department Field Training Program. These officers are currently assigned to the Patrol Division. The fourth person that was hired started the Police Academy in January of 2014.

Our department is committed to training. Besides the mandatory state training, such as Use of Force and Firearms qualifications, our officers receive additional training to ensure that they are more professional and well prepared to bring the highest level of police service to the community. This year officers received training in topics, such as: Command Leadership, Drug Investigations, Basic Police Prosecutor, Active Shooter and Search & Seizure. There were several other schools and training classes that our officers also attended.

The Support Division will continue to work closely with all other divisions and personnel in our department. We look forward to the challenges that will come in 2014, and our officers will continue meet these challenges, providing professional services to the Town of Milford.

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**Support Bureau Statistics**

<b>Detective's – Felonies &amp; Serious Investigations</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
Cases Assigned	129	147
Cases Closed (overall)	94	104
Cases Closed by Arrest(s)	49	15
Cases Suspended	16	8
Cases Still Open	19	20
<b>Closure Rate</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>71%</b>
Note: The "Cases" information listed above does not include all calls, reports and activities		

<b>Juvenile Officer</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Total Cases Involving Juveniles</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>458</b>
Assault Related	77	69
Thefts/Burglaries	56	41
Vandalism	28	25
Alcohol Violations	14	10
Drug Violations	12	15

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<b>Prosecution</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
Arrests	470	477
O/T Hours	557	456
O/T Paid Out	20,922.00	17,626.00
Scheduled Arraignments	514	477
Schedule Trials (Trials, PC Hearings, Misc. Hearings)	1,025	1,263
Juvenile Petitions Filed	74	60
Total for Milford District Court	136	112
<b>Milford's % of Petitions Filed in MDC</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>53%</b>
 Diversion Cases Brought Forward by Milford Police	 11	 12
Total Diversion Cases in Milford District Court	32	26
<b>Milford's % of Diversion Cases Brought Forward</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>46%</b>

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In closing, I would like to thank the men and women of the Milford Police Department for their hard work and dedication that they have displayed on a daily basis to the people that live, work, and visit the Town of Milford. It is an honor for me to work with each of you that represent the Milford Police Department and the Town of Milford.

I would also like to thank the citizens and business community for their continued support and commitment to the Milford Police Department. I look forward to increasing our community initiatives and working together to improve the quality of life for our citizens and to provide a safe and secure community.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Viola

Chief of Police